FILED  ORDER SA  2009 JUL 20 A 10: 17  STATE OF VERMONT,  CUPERLAINITE, 11  WASHINGTON COLUMN	STATE OF VERMONT WASHINGTON COUNTY, SS. ) )	FILED  OW  2009 JUL - 7 A 11:3  Stipulation  WASHINSTER FOR
MMOUNTOLONG	)	Mr. Ohlinger
v.	) Washington Su	perior Court
	) Docket No. 150	)-3-09 Wncv
PETER CROSS,	)	
Defendant.	)	

## STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT AND CONSENT DECREE

To resolve the allegations in the Complaint filed in the above matter, Plaintiff State of Vermont and Defendant Peter Cross, stipulate and agree to the following:

- By July 17, 2009, Defendant shall submit the name of an inspector who is certified to
  perform essential maintenance practice ("EMP") work to the Attorney General's
  Office for its approval. The name of the inspector shall be sent to: Robert F.
  McDougall, Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General, 109 State
  Street, Montpelier, Vermont 05609.
- 2. Once an inspector is approved by the Attorney General's Office, then the inspector shall inspect all of the properties listed in Attachment A of the Complaint ("the properties") and complete compliance statements or a similar form tracking EMP compliance for each property, indicating any work which must been completed to become EMP compliant. At least once every week after the inspector commences the inspections, the inspector shall send copies of completed compliance statements or similar forms to the Defendant and to the Attorney General's Office at the address in paragraph 1. Defendant shall be responsible for all costs associated with the inspections.

- 3. The inspections described in paragraph 2 will be performed within a reasonable time, with priority given to the 14 properties listed in Attachment A which are italicized and to properties where children, particularly children age six and younger, are known to reside.
- 4. Within 30 days of completion of the inspection at a given property, Defendant shall perform any identified EMP work required by the lead law. Upon completion of any identified EMP work, Defendant shall file with the Vermont Department of Health, Defendant's insurance carrier and with the Attorney General's Office at the address listed in paragraph 1, a completed EMP compliance statement for the property. Defendant will also give a copy of the completed EMP compliance statement to an adult in each rented unit of the property.
- 5. Defendant shall fully and timely comply with the requirements of the lead law, 18
  V.S.A., Chapter 38, as long as he maintains any ownership or property management interest in the properties or in any other pre-1978 rental housing in which he acquires an interest.
- 6. Should any unit in a property which is not EMP compliant become vacant,

  Defendant shall not rent, or offer for rent, that unit until the EMP compliance
  statement for the property is distributed as described in paragraph 4.

#### **PENALTIES**

7. Defendant shall pay the sum of \$18,000.00 in civil penalties to the State of Vermont for the allegations in the Complaint. Payment shall be made to the "State of Vermont" and shall be sent to the Attorney General's Office at the address listed in paragraph 1. Defendant shall pay the sum in four payments as follows: (1) a

- \$5,000.00 payment no later than July 1, 2009; (2) a \$5,000 payment no later than November 1, 2009; (3) a \$5,000.00 payment no later than March 1, 2010; and (4) a \$3,000.00 payment no later than July 1, 2010.
- 8. In addition to the payment described in paragraph 7, Defendant shall expend at least \$71,500.00, including the actual cost of materials and the actual (or if the work is done by employees of Defendant, the reasonable) cost of labor, on any or all of the following lead hazard reduction improvements at any of the properties or in any other pre-1978 rental housing in which Defendant acquires an interest:
  - a. Replacement of painted windows;
  - b. Replacement of painted doors;
  - c. Covering of painted exterior walls with siding; and
  - d. Replacement or covering of interior or exterior (including porch) floors and stairs with permanent carpeting or other permanent floor covering; provided that the building component in question was installed and first painted before 1978; and further provided that Defendant may submit for prior approval other potential lead hazard reduction improvements (e.g. soil coverage) to the Attorney General's Office, which shall have complete discretion to determine whether the improvements count toward the required expenditure.
- 9. The expenditures described in paragraph 8 above shall reflect work performed between October 1, 2008, and July 1, 2010. Defendant shall provide written documentation of the expenditures to the Attorney General's Office at the address provided in paragraph 1.

- 10. Defendant shall provide the Attorney General's Office with four written updates on the status of the work described in paragraph 8, including documentation of the amounts spent on lead hazard reduction improvements at the time of the update. The four updates shall be due: (1) no later than August 1, 2009; (2) no later than November 1, 2009; (3) no later than March 1, 2010; (4) no later than July 1, 2010.
- 11. If Defendant anticipates not being able to fully comply with paragraphs 8 and 9 by July 1, 2010, solely due to delays relating to obtaining zoning or permit approval for the work to be performed, Defendant may request an extension of the July 1, 2010 deadline from the Attorney General's Office; such request shall be made no later than June 1, 2010.

## DISMISSAL OF COUNTERCLAIMS

12. Defendant hereby dismisses all Counterclaims against the State of Vermont.

#### OTHER RELIEF

- 13. Transfer of ownership of any of the properties shall be consistent with Vermont law, including the provisions of 18 V.S.A. § 1767 specifically relating to the transfer of ownership of target (pre-1978) housing.
- 14. This Consent Decree shall not affect marketability of title.
- 15. Should Defendant fully transfer or sell his ownership interest in any of the properties after completing all obligations under this Consent Decree, then his obligations with respect to that particular property under this Consent Decree is extinguished.

  However, nothing in this Consent Decree in any way affects the obligations of future owners of any of the properties under Vermont law, including under the lead law.

- 16. Nothing in this Consent Decree in any way affects Defendant's other obligations under state, local, or federal law.
- 17. If Defendant shall, at any time in the future fail to comply with the terms and conditions of this Consent Decree, then each future failure of Defendant to comply with the terms and conditions of this Consent Decree shall constitute a separate civil action for which the State of Vermont may pursue additional civil penalties beyond the civil penalty outlined herein.

### STIPULATION

Defendant Peter Cross acknowledges receipt of and voluntarily agrees to the terms of this Consent Decree and waives any service requirements of the Consent Decree, Order and Final Judgment.

DATED at	, Vermont this day of June, 2009.
	Peter Cross

ACCEPTED on behalf of the State of Vermont:

DATED at Montpelier, Vermont this 7th day of July, 2009.

STATE OF VERMONT

WILLIAM H. SORRELL ATTORNEY GENERAL

By:

Robert F. McDougall
Assistant Attorney General

Office of the Attorney General

109 State Street

Montpelier, Vermont 05609

802.828.3186

# DECREE, ORDER AND FINAL JUDGMENT

This Consent Decree is accepted and entered as a Decree, Order, and Final Judgment of this Court in the matter of: State of Vermont v. Peter Cross, 150-3-09 Wncv.

SO ORDERED.

DATED at Montpelier, Vermont this A day of June, 2009

Washington Superior Court Judge